

Lewis Curry – The Curry Home

Uintah County has many sites on the National Register of Historic Places. The Uintah County Preservation Commission facilitates national register nominations. One of the sites is the Curry Home.

The Curry Home is a large two story brick structure. Because of its formal arrangement, such houses are often simply described as “T-plan” houses.

About 1880, Oran Curry was sent from Harrodsburg, Kentucky, by his mother through the Presbyterian Church to work with the Indians. After spending some time, he set up a trading post on the Ouray Indian Reservation. Oran’s brother, Lewis, had been a banker with the First National Bank in Harrodsburg when, in 1887, Lewis decided to come to Ouray to retrieve Oran. Lewis became involved in the trading post business and stayed.

By 1909, discontented with the lending policies of the Bank of Vernal, several prominent Vernal businessmen were led to form a new bank. Lewis Curry was asked to help operate the bank. Curry was on the first Board of Education. He was involved with civic clubs and also a mill, a theater, a furniture store and the trading post at Ouray. He built the Curry House in 1910, where he entertained many distinguished people, including Heber J. Grant, Mormon apostle and later president of the LDS Church, and Governor Simon Bamberger. He was a member of the Utah House of Representatives and would have served as Utah Grand Master of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks had his health not failed him in 1922.

After Lewis Curry’s death, his brother Matt married his widow, Sally. Matt served as state representative until his death in 1939. Sally Curry then lived alone in the home for almost twenty-three years. She was known for her spunk and for her “grandmothering” of neighbor children. When she died in 1962, the home passed to her only son, David H. Curry, who lived there with his wife, Enid. When the burden of maintaining the large home became troublesome to David, then in his eighties, he sold the house to H. Wallace and Nancy Goddard in 1979. The Goddards later sold the house to Duane and Anah Tucker. It is now owned by Steve Jones. It is now the called Curry Manor which offers fine dining.

Uintah County has a local register, the Uintah County Landmark Register. This register helps promote and recognize locations of local significance. Some of those sites are listed below.

Ashley Co-op Buildings, 4 West Main Street, Vernal Utah
Ashley Post Office, 1355 West 2000 North, Vernal, Utah
Ashton Home, 133 West 500 South, Vernal, Utah
Bank Of Vernal, 3 West Main Street, Vernal, Utah
Bartlett/Showalter Home, 551 South Vernal Avenue, Vernal, Utah
John Bennion Home, 145 West 400 South, Vernal, Utah
Hyrum Calder Home, 915 North Vernal Avenue, Vernal, Utah
Pontha Calder Home, 916 North Vernal Avenue, Vernal, Utah
Caldwell/Christiansen, 8526 East 6000 South, Vernal, Utah
Francis Caldwell Home, 3105 West 1500 North, Vernal, Utah